

**FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER**

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
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October 12, 2007

Honorable William H. Alsup  
United States District Judge  
United States District Court  
450 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94104

Re: United States v. Debra Edison  
CR No. 07-0479 WHA

Your Honor:

I am writing to request that defendants Debra Edison and Michael Edison be permitted to meet in the federal building for one hour either before or after their court appearance before Your Honor on Tuesday, October 16, 2007 at 2:00 p.m., with their attorneys present, so that we can have discussions relating to the plea negotiations in this case. Michael Edison is in U.S. Marshal custody at Dublin, and Debra Edison is currently residing at Cornell Corrections.

Defense counsel believe that this case is very close to resolving, but that a meeting between the defendants and their attorneys is necessary before the final plea agreements can be reached. If at all possible, we would like to meet in a courtroom or in a room on the 20<sup>th</sup> floor, but not in the "lock-up" on the 20<sup>th</sup> floor. Judge Larson previously issued a non-contested "no contact" order in this case, but in light of the current status of the case and the defense's explanation for the purpose of this meeting, AUSA Jeffrey Finigan does object to the meeting.

Finally, the parties anticipate that if the meeting proceeds as expected, both Mr. and Mrs. Edison would be prepared to enter guilty pleas pursuant to plea agreements with the government at the next court appearance, as soon as October 23, 2007 if that is convenient to the Court. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

BARRY J. PORTMAN  
Federal Public Defender

/S/  
SHAWN HALBERT  
Assistant Federal Public Defender

cc: AUSA Jeffrey Finigan  
U.S. Marshal  
Roger Patton, Esq.